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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 21 July 1950

SUBJECT Possible Conversion of Sickle and Hammer Plant
in Kharkov to the Production of Aircraft

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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May 1949

1. A fighter arrived at the plant in May 1949 and remained there for about two weeks.
2. It was rumored among the PWs and Soviets that aircraft were scheduled to be built in the plant. The installation of 14-foot presses early in 1949 was also connected with the manufacture of aircraft, since these presses were not required for the manufacture of agricultural machinery.

25X1

July 1949

3. The plant is soon to be converted to the production of aircraft parts, fuses, etc. Blueprints and sample specimens are already available. The plant was an aircraft delivery plant during WW II.

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Comment:

a. The Sickle and Hammer Plant manufactures agricultural machinery. There is also the former Aircraft Plant No 135 in Kharkov. It was damaged during the war but was reportedly almost completely reconstructed and reequipped with dismantled German machinery at the beginning of 1948. Information that twin-engine bombers are being built there as before requires confirmation.

b. The report deserves attention as it may indicate preparations for an expansion of the aircraft production up to a war-time level.

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c. There is also the possibility that the plant is to be converted into an aircraft delivery plant. The statement that large presses were installed in connection with the production of fuses previously undertaken at this plant may possibly indicate an intended manufacture of bombs or ammunition.

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